

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING GROUP 2186

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Curran et al.

Confirmation No.: 9989

Serial No.:

10/602,159

Group Art Unit: 2186

Filed:

06/24/2003

Examiner: Hetul B. Patel

Title:

AN EFFICIENT METHOD FOR COPYING AND CREATING BLOCK-LEVEL

INCREMENTAL BACKUPS OF LARGE FILES AND SPARSE FILES

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 24, 2006.

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Date of Signature: January 24, 2006.

To: Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Response To Office Action Under Rule 116

Dear Sir:

This Response to Office Action is being submitted in reply to the Final Office Action mailed November 3, 2005 for the above-referenced patent application.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this Response.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this Response.